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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

CIA/OCER/S-06124-74

Office of the Director

April 24, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR : Major General Brent Scowcroft  
Deputy Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs

SUBJECT : Comparative Data on Communist Aid to North Vietnam  
and the Khmer Communists, and U.S. Aid to  
South Vietnam

1. The attached statistics and comments on Communist and U.S. aid levels in Indochina have been prepared at the request of the Secretary of State. In a telephone conversation with Mr. Colby early last evening, Dr. Kissinger asked that that this data be delivered to him at the White House Situation Room at 0700 today, Wednesday, April 24.

National Intelligence Officer  
for Southeast Asia

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## INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Comparative Data on Communist Aid to North Vietnam and the Khmer Communists, and US Aid to South Vietnam

I. Communist Aid to North Vietnam

1. The Central Intelligence Agency's best estimates of military and economic aid to North Vietnam from the USSR, China and other Communist countries are:\*

(millions of dollars)

Calendar Year	From USSR	From China	From East- ern Europe and Other	TOTAL
1970.				
military aid	90	100	Negl	190
economic aid	<u>345</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>205</u>	<u>610</u>
TOTAL	435	160	205	800
1971				
military aid	165	115	5	285
economic aid	<u>320</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>620</u>
TOTAL	485	220	200	905
1972				
military aid	375	230	5	610
economic aid	<u>210</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>375</u>
TOTAL	585	320	80	985
1973				
military aid	175	115	5	295
economic aid	<u>200</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>510</u>
TOTAL	375	340	90	805

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2. The military aid figures in the table above are our best estimates of the costs (in current prices) of comparable US military equipment. The economic aid figures in the above table are calculated in current world prices.

3. We have no concrete evidence as yet on the amount of military aid North Vietnam will receive during 1974, although it is clear that some shipments of military goods continued in the first quarter of the year. In June 1973, Hanoi signed a military and economic aid pact with China for 1974, and in October signed an additional protocol on military aid. The protocol probably delineated the details of the agreement worked out in June. In contrast, Moscow signed only an economic aid pact in July; no formal military aid agreement was announced.

4. It should be noted that combat levels in South Vietnam could rise substantially without requiring a concomitant rise in imports. Hanoi has large stocks of all major categories of military equipment and its forces could conduct major operations for an extended period before additional imports were required.

5. The amount of economic assistance to North Vietnam from other Communist states in 1974 should continue the recovery begun in 1973. Commodity aid requirements thus far appear to be remaining at very high levels and the pace of reconstruction should pick up. Much of the preliminary damage survey work has been completed and Hanoi has formulated firm goals for various sectors of its economy. Moreover, seaborne deliveries in the first quarter indicate that Haiphong harbor has been essentially restored to its pre-mining capacity. The chief limitation now on North Vietnam's ability to use reconstruction assistance will be Hanoi's deficient management capability and its shortage of skilled labor. For the remainder of 1974, foodstuff and petroleum deliveries appear likely to continue at high levels, fertilizer imports could step up, and capital goods deliveries probably will rise.

## II. Communist Aid to the Khmer Communists

6. No meaningful estimates of the dollar value of aid to the Khmer Communists from North Vietnam, China, the USSR and other Communist states are available.

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In general, it seems clear that Hanoi and the Chinese have given the Khmer Communists moderate rather than large amounts of aid in recent months, and that aid from the Soviet Union and other Communist states has been negligible.

### III. US Aid to South Vietnam

7. For purposes of comparison, presented below are figures on US aid to South Vietnam (in current prices) for fiscal years 1971 through 1974. (N.B., the figures given in Section I above for Communist aid to North Vietnam are for calendar years, not fiscal years.)

#### US Aid (millions of dollars)

FY 1971	
military aid	1,875
economic aid	605
TOTAL	<u>2,480</u>

FY 1972	
military aid	2,160
economic aid	450
TOTAL	<u>2,610</u>

FY 1973	
military aid	1,600
economic aid	525
TOTAL	<u>2,125</u>

FY 1974	
military aid	1,125
economic aid	700
TOTAL	<u>1,825</u>